Statement

The details of the persons reported to have been kidnapped/murdered during the relevant period and the persons arrested in this connection, etc. are given below :-

Year	Kidnapping			Murder	
	No. of Persons Kidnapped	No. of Persons recovered**	No. of Persons arrested	No. of Persons murdered	No. of Persons arrested
1996	954	650	497	565	935
1.1.97 to 15.2.97	126	53	1	64	82
1.1.96 to 15.2.96	142	100	75	74	99

** (These persons either returned on their own or were recovered by the police)

The number of cases in which the ransom was demanded was 26 in 1996 and one in 1997 (upto the 15th February, 1997). As per the information available with Delhi Police, ransom was paid only in two cases and this amounted to an aggregate sum of Rs. 55,800/-.

[Translation]

PDS Quota to Rajasthan

448. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received request from Rajasthan to increase the public Distribution system quota of wheat, rice, kerosine, edible oil and sugar for Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Government of Rajasthan have demanded fixation of monthly wheat quota for Public Distribution System at 1,85,000 MT as against a monthly quota of wheat allotted for January, 1997 at 1,22,000 MT for February, 1997 at 1,27,000 MT and for March, 1997 at 1,30,000 MT. No request has been received for increase in PDS rice quota. Allocation of foodgrains for PDS are made on month to month basis keeping in view relative demand of states, offtake trend, stock position in the Central Pool and seasonal availability etc.

No. request for increase in PDS quota of edible oil (imported palmolein) and levy sugar has been received from Rajasthan. Requests were received from State of Rajasthan also for additional allocation of Kerosene. However, on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy involved, it is not possible to meet the full demand of the states. Neverthe less, a 3% increase was given in the allocation of kerosene during the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 over the previous years for the country as a whole. The allocation for the year 1997-98 to the State of Rajasthan has been increased by 15984 MTs over the last year representing a 4.46% increase over the year 1996-97.

Procurement Stock and Distribution of Foodgrains

449. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of which the Government have procured the foodgrains, the quantity purchased, the amount spent on its procurement during the current season and the stock of foodgrain with the Government at present, foodgrain-wise;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains to be sold through Public Distribution System and in open market out of the present stock of foodgrain, foodgrain-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to supply wheat and rice at lower prices to the people through the fair price shops keeping in view the large stock of foodgrains with the Government and lack of storage facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Minimum Support Prices fixed by the Government for procurement of wheat and paddy during current 1996-97 rabi/kharif marketing season are as under :-

	(Rs. per quintal)
Wheat	380
Paddy	
Common	380
Fine	395
Superfine	415

A statement showing for levy rice fixed for 1996-97 Kharif Marketing Season is enclosed.

Quantities of wheat and rice (including paddy in terms of rice) procured during current Rabi/Kharif marketing season 1996-97 and the amount spent thereon is as follows :-